

Mission & Outreach

We encourage you this week to pray for **Federative Republic of Brazil, Latin America**



Geography

Area: 8,511,965 sq km
One-half of the land surface and population of South America. The world's fifth largest country in both area and population.

Population: 195,423,252

Annual Growth: 0.99%

Capital: Brasilia

Urbanites: 86.5%

Peoples: 315 (18% unreached)

Official language: Portuguese

Languages: 193

Largest Religion: Christian

Religion		Pop %	Ann Gr
Christians	178,616,852	91.40	1.1
Evangelicals	51,334,091	26.3	1.7

Challenge for Prayer

Catholics in Brazil number more than in any other country, but the Church itself remains in crisis. The defection rate has slowed, but it continues to lose members to evangelicals, to Spiritists and to non-religion. By 2025, Catholicism could be a minority religion, having held 95% of the population in 1950. Around 70% of ex-Catholics are now evangelicals. Even within Catholicism, only a small minority remain traditionally Catholic and faithful in practice; many others are influenced by Spiritism, nominalism or the charismatic renewal. The grassroots "Base Community" movement, the engine room of liberation theology, has lost much of its drive, but nearly one million "Bible circles" persist, hosting studies of Scripture. Pray that the Bible and its truths may mould the lives of Catholics.

Please see <http://www.operationworld.org> for more.

VERSE FOR THE WEEK (NKJV)

1 Corinthians 1:10

I appeal to you, brothers, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another so that there may be no divisions among you and that you may be perfectly united in mind and thought.

Today's Service

Worship: Abri	Communion: Abri	Translators: David Xu/Maria
Greeters: Sophia/David/Hong/Susan		Reader: David Kim/Julie
SS Little Lambs:	Rowena/Emily	Prescy/Christine
Kids for Christ:	Kuniko/Mike	Flora/Xiang Hong
Bible Explorers:		



Knowing Jesus More and Making Him Known

Weekly Bulletin

Sunday 8th Apr 2018



Worship Service

9 am & 11 am

"How to Read and Interpret the Bible"

Preacher: Abri Brancken

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 1: 10

Pre-Service Prayer at 8:30 am in lounge, 10:30am in Pastor Abri's office— all welcome

**Prayer Meeting every 2nd & 4th Sunday at 7 pm
8 Apr & 22 Apr**

49 Maxwelton Drive, Mairangi Bay, North Shore, Auckland 0630
Ph 09 478-6314, Website: www.mairangichurch.org.nz, Email: office@mairangichurch.org.nz

WELCOME TO MAIRANGI BAY COMMUNITY CHURCH (MBCC)

If this is your first time worshipping with us, please go to the Welcome Corner after the service. We have a small gift for you & will gladly answer your questions about our church. MBCC is an intentionally multi-cultural church and welcomes and celebrates all languages & cultures. 我们是一个多元文化的教会, 欢迎中国朋友参加. どの国の方も大歓迎します。

If you would like to hear a Chinese or Japanese translation, please ask for a headset
如果您需要听中文翻译可以向服事人员要一个耳机

A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR

READING AND STUDYING THE BIBLE

As followers of Jesus, it is important that we learn at least the basic principles of how to properly interpret the Bible. Interpreting the Bible (the subject called Hermeneutics) is the science and art of understanding, translating, and explaining the meaning of Scripture passages text.

Although there were more than 40 “writers,” there is but one “Author,” God. His message is His message and we should not impose our own ideas on Scripture verses and thereby distort the truth of God’s Word. That is why we follow certain guidelines and principles.

One of the major reasons why people have different ideas concerning what the Bible says is that they use different rules or standards for interpreting it. It was never God’s intention that people read the same document and come away with different ideas about what it is saying.

The Bible is truly an amazing book! Let’s dedicate ourselves to reading and studying it on a regular basis.

God bless you

Pastor **Abri Brancken**



Want to get to know more about us?
Please visit our website www.mairangichurch.org.nz
You’ll find our weekly bulletin there; learn more about our Life Groups and ministries; watch our sermons and much more.

NEWS & EVENTS

Life Group Leader Meeting – today, 12.40 pm

All Life Group Leaders please stay after the second service. There will be a meeting in the lounge for group review and feedback.

Church Prayer Meeting – today, 7.00 pm

This evening there will be church prayer meeting at the lounge. All are welcome and you can pray in your mother tongue.

Branckens Away

Pastor Abri will be away with his family from **13 Apr to 27 Apr** for a break. Anything urgent please contact Pastor David, Wendy or one of the elders.

KO & Stella

One of the missionary families supported by us, the Okudairas will be returning from Japan for a period of 6 months on home leave. Stella and KO will be visiting our church on the **15th April** and again on the **22nd April** when KO will be preaching. Please look out for them in April – they work in a very needy nation and their work is deeply valued.

If anyone knows of a house available for short term rental please also advise the church office.

Mission Conference

There will be two open lectures of 2018 Mission Revival Conference held on **7.00 pm, 20th Apr** (Fri) and **21st Apr** (Sat) @MBCC given by missionary Paul Choi. Through Dr. Choi, God will pour out spiritual insight and strong anointing of the Holy Spirit to discern the times. Dr. Choi is an outstanding expert on the topic of Islam and its current phenomenon. He has 35 years of ministry experience with Muslims and the Islamic world.

CONTACT INFORMATION

- **Church Office:** 09 478-6314, Email: office@mairangichurch.org.nz
- **Leading Pastor, Abri Brancken:** 027 2104730, Email: abri@mairangichurch.org.nz
- **Associate Pastor, David Yeh:** 022 5220670, Email: david@mairangichurch.org.nz
- **Chinese Pastoral Worker, Wendy Liu:** 021 02654800, Email: wendy@mairangichurch.org.nz
- **Japanese Ministry Leaders, Joji & Chihiro Kami,** 0278048702 joji@mairangichurch.org.nz
- **Church Administrator, Ann Yao :** 021 2322009, Email: ann@mairangichurch.org.nz
- **Children’s Ministry Leader, Maria Zhao:** 021 1072918, Email: z MARIA39@gmail.com

PRAYER “and pray for one another”

James 5:16b. Please visit the Prayer Wall. Leave prayers, answers to prayer or testimonies. Remember to pray for these today and throughout the week.

GIVE THANKS FOR

- People who gave their hearts to the Lord Jesus through the message in our services.

PRAY FOR

- **People will be away** during the school holidays, incl. Pastor Abri’s family, Elder David Xu’s family, Joji & Chihiro and kids, etc.
- **Ko & Stella Okudaira**, who will appreciate our interest in their work in Japan and very importantly our prayers for their church while they are in New Zealand. Stella and KO would also appreciate our prayers for them for their future ministry in Japan as they have gone there as missionaries later in life rather than earlier as most do.
- People may be awakened and see the Lord’s vision through the testimonies from missionaries all over the world.
- All the courses and events will be happened in the church this year, i.e. **Marriage Course, Alpha Course, Pre-baptism Course**, etc., to help people to know the Lord better and deeper, hear the calling from the Lord and serve Him with great joy and blessings.
- **The renovation downstairs (phase 1)** is just about complete. Please continue to pray for this project as well as for the finances of the project.
- **People who are in needs**, visa, job, future, fiancé, health, etc.

Service Roster for next Sunday 15th Apr 2018, 9 & 11 am

Worship	Musicians	Sound	Communion	Reader	Greeters	Offering Count	Translators	Flower	Tea
Paul	Nancy	Louis/LD/Jacky/Michael	Warren	Rosemary/Dale	Gloria/Sheldon/Maree/Jack	Kevin/Ivy	Tommy/Flora	Annie Z	Jessica/Stephanie/Hong/Emily P